

GROWING CT JOBS



State Senator Joe Crisco

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The legislative session has just ended and one of my primary accomplishments was the passage of **bipartisan jobs legislation** in the Senate. It is my hope that final action will be taken during a special session this summer on this important legislation that:

Expands existing small business programs to an estimated 3,600 additional state businesses by raising the limit from 50 to 100 employees for businesses to qualify for loans and grants.

Establishes the Unemployed Armed Forces Member STEP-Up program which will subsidize a business' cost of hiring unemployed veterans during their first 180 days on the job.

Seeks to bring overseas jobs back to Connecticut by giving a preference under the "First Five Plus" program to companies that will relocate jobs from overseas to Connecticut.

Prevents discrimination against the unemployed by preventing employment agencies and Web sites from carrying advertisements for job openings that specifically exclude the unemployed.

Creates "Connecticut Made" and "Connecticut Treasures" programs to promote locally made products and promote the state's cultural, educational and historic attractions.

Learn more @ www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs

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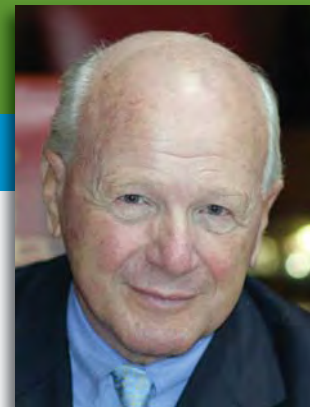


I recently participated in Fire Ops 101 at the City of Hartford Fire Department Training Center. This program put me and other guests into the heat of battle, responding to a structure fire, motor vehicle accident and an emergency medical incident.

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State Senator **JOE CRISCO**

Update for Beacon Falls and Naugatuck



Funding for Fire Training School

The State Bond Commission just approved funding to underwrite the cost of architectural plans for the fire training school slated for Beacon Falls, which will one day offer hands-on training for local first responders in the smoke and heat of real fire and simulated circumstances of motor vehicle and medical emergencies.

Breast Cancer Screening: A Leader in the Nation

I am pleased to report that Connecticut has become a national leader in breast cancer awareness and prevention measures. Successful legislation I championed underscores our determination to protect women at risk. Actions we have taken:

- Require mammography reports to disclose breast density to patients.
- Require health insurance companies to provide coverage for follow-up ultrasound screening—a procedure that can reveal cancers that go undetected by a mammogram.
- Require health insurance companies to provide coverage for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) of a woman's breast(s) in accordance with guidelines of the American Cancer Society.

But women who pursue a follow-up ultrasound screening may find that the out-of-pocket expenses involved can make such necessary screening cost prohibitive. That is why I proposed legislation, which passed in the Senate, that:

- Prohibits insurance companies from imposing a coinsurance, copayment, deductible or other out-of-pocket expenses for ultrasound screening.